

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/921,230

Examiner

Cam Y T Truong

Applicant(s)

LARASON ET AL.

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## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/10/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 16-19 and 35-38.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 August 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



SHAHID ALAM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicant has amended claims 1, 4, 9 10, 12, 14, 16-18, 20, 23, 28, 29, 31, 35, 36, and 37 in the amendment filed on 3/10/2005. Claims 1-38 are pending in this Office Action.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian P. Klein, Registration No. 44,837 on 4/12/2005.

In the claim: Please replace claims 16 and 35 with amended claim 16 and claim 35 and cancel claims 1-15 and 20-34.

16. (currently amended) A computer implemented a method of operation on one or more data processing machines, the method comprising:

determining whether a first document collection comprises at least one document linked to at least one other document of at least one other second document collection;

determining a collection rating according to a rating scale for each of said at least one other second document collection if said first document collection is determined to comprise at least one document linked to at least one other document of at least one other second document collection, said collection rating according to the rating scale for

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each of said at least one other second document collection relating to a desirability of a content of said at least one other second document collection;

determining whether said first document collection comprises at least one document being linked by at least one other document of at least one other third document collection;

determining a collection rating according to said rating scale for each of said at least one other third document collection if said first document collection is determined to comprise at least one document linked by at least one other third document collection, said collection rating according to the rating scale for each of said at least one other third document collection rating to a desirability of a content of said at least one other third document collection; and

determining a link rating according to said rating scale for said first document collection based on either said determined collection rating or ratings according to said rating for said at least one other second document collection, or said determined collection rating or ratings according to said rating scale for said at least one other third document collection, or both, depending on whether collection rating or ratings are determined according to said rating scale for said at least one other second document collection, said at least one other third document collection or both.

35. (currently amended) A computer implemented an apparatus comprising:  
storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to enable said apparatus to determine whether a first document collection

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comprises at least one document linked to at least one other document of at least one other document of at least one other second document collection,

determine a collection rating according to a rating scale for each of said at least one other second document collection if said first document collection is determined to comprise at least one document linked to at least one other document of at least one other second document collection, said collection rating according to the rating scale for each of said at least one other second document collection relating to a desirability of a content of said at least one other second document collection,

determine whether said first document collection comprises at least one document being linked by at least one other document of at least one other third document collection,

determine a collection rating according to said rating scale for each of said at least one other third document collection if said first document collection is determined to comprise at least one document linked by at least one other third document collection, said collection rating according to the rating scale for each of said at least one other third document collection relating to a desirability of a content of said at least one other third document collection, and

determine a link rating according to said rating scale for said first document collection based on either said determined collection rating or ratings according to said rating scale for said at least one other second document collection, or said determined collection rating or ratings according to said rating scale for said at least one other third document collection, or both, depending on whether collection rating or ratings are

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determined according to said rating scale for said at least one other second document collection, said at least one other third document collection or both; and  
at least one processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the programming instructions.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 16-19 and 35-38 are allowed.

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest the combination of steps as recited in independent claims 16 and 35 wherein "determining a collection rating according to a rating scale for each of said at least one other second document collection if said first document collection is determined to comprise at least one document linked to at least one other document of at least one other second document collection, said collection rating according to the rating scale for each of said at least one other second document collection relating to a desirability of a content of said at least one other second document, determine a collection rating according to said rating scale for each of said at least one other third document collection if said first document collection is determined to comprise at least one document linked by at least one other third document collection, said collection rating according to the rating scale for each of said at least one other third document collection relating to a desirability of a content of said at least one other third document collection".

The dependent claims, bring definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

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***Contact Information***

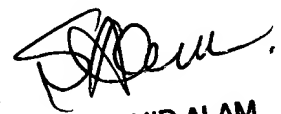
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam Y T Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-4042 . The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cam-Y Truong

4/25/2005

  
SHAHID ALAM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER